

## **The Peace Process between India and Pakistan, Post Kargil Phase**

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### **ABSTRACT:**

India and Pakistan are two Asian neighbors known the world over for their hostile relations and armed conflicts. Carved from India, Pakistan is a nascent country having over only a half century existence. As Pakistan's birth is the result of two nations theory of British Colonialists, 'hate India' is a deep rooted spirit of Pakistan psyche. The politicians and policy makers have on the both sides denigrate dialogue and promote enemy image. The antagonism and the hostility which resulted due to many issues during the time of partition had remained in their relations afterwards. Many core issues remained unresolved even today like Kashmir and cross borders terrorism. Thus Indian and Pakistan relations are moving through many ups and downs since partition.

The possession of nuclear weapon and huge stock pile of arms and other military equipments is threat not only for each other, but also for a whole world.

Moreover, the most contentious issue of Kashmir is now lying on nuclear threshold. There is dire need of solution of Kashmir issue and terrorism so that the two countries can think about other developmental issues. Although in order to maintain good relations the two countries tried to maintain normal relations through many agreements in past like Tashkent Declaration and Shimla Agreement etc. Under the pressure of USA, EU and other world powers, Indian and Pakistan have been following the path of peace since 2003 through Composite Dialogue Process (CDP) and Confidence Building Measures (CBMs). I hope that the two countries will maintain lasting peace in coming decades. I feel it as my pleasure to do my Dissertation work on the topic, **"Peace Process between India and Pakistan: Post Kargil Phase"**, under the supervision of Dr.AlpnaBimalAgrajit. I am thankful to God, He blessed me to work under his guidance and supervision

**Major Issues Concerning India and Pakistan** India and Pakistan have had their highs and lows, since the time when India was divided into two dominions viz. India and Pakistan. The partition gave rise to many disputes which strained the relations between the two countries which includes the problem of refugees, evacuee property, minorities etc.

Most of these issues originated with partition, however cold war intensified them. It was mainly due to the prevalence of enemy image both at the political elite levels as well as at the mass level. Politicization of economic issues, a culture of mutual suspicious and mistrust, wars and conflicts and legacy of partition, and finally their differences over a range of issues including that of Kashmir which are still persisting even after 6 decades<sup>2</sup>. Currently India and Pakistan are engaged in a low intensity conflict over Kashmir

There is a school of thought which believes that Indo- Pak hostilities originated in the period of Muslim rule over India, which lasted nearly a thousand years before the advent of the European colonial powers. The implication is that the Muslims of India were willing to accept governance by the other foreign powers like the French or British, but were not willing to felt the prospect of being ruled by a Hindu majority in an India free from colonial domination.

Moreover, Shiekh Mujabur Rehman Bangladesh leader once told in an interview, all along Pakistan has preached four things:-

i. Islam is in danger.

- ii. The Hindu is a Kafir.
- iii. India is the enemy
- iv. Kashmir must be conquered.

### **KASHMIR ISSUE**

Indian and Pakistan relations have held their highs and lows since the time when India was divided into two dominions viz. India and Pakistan. The partition gave rise to many disputes and some of these disputes were solved except Kashmir. It is the biggest thorn in the flesh of India and Pakistan relation. Nothing has bedeviled them more than this beautiful mountainous state of Kashmir which says that which has been called a heaven on earth.

### **TERRORISM AND CROSS BORDER TERRORISM:**

Pakistan in the war of 1971 realized that direct war on India is not in her favour. So when Pakistan's nuclear aspirations translated into nuclear weaponization in 1987 then it pursued terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir under the nuclear umbrella.<sup>17</sup> Pakistan sponsored help of other countries to start Jihad in K. Although the composite dialogue process and confidence building measures remained important aspects of current peace process. The dialogue process has been producing good results although terrorist attack often paused it. Yet composed dialogue process has been acting as platform for future peace process between India and Pakistan.

### **PEACE PROCESS AND COMPOSITE DIALOGUE:**

The period of war and conflict between India and Pakistan are intercepted by the period of peace making from time to time. The war of 1947-48 led to the conclusion of a range of measures through which India and Pakistan promoted their mutual cooperation over a range of issues Tashkent and Shimla Agreement concluded after the major wars.<sup>1</sup> India's relations with Pakistan have gone through critical and turbulent events. India and Pakistan are not only countries where there is enmity and conflicts exist. There are so many countries in this world where conflicts exist, but most of the countries turned into lasting peace and friendship after the Cold War. But India and Pakistan continued to be locked in perpetual unyielding hostility. The events of 1990 particularly the nuclear tests and Kargil conflict, further underscore the necessity for new initiatives towards establishing peace and harmony in the region.<sup>3</sup>

### **COMPOSITE DIALOGUE PROCESS:**

Basically the genesis of the composite dialogue format can be traced to the meeting between I.K. Gujral and Nawaz Sharif on May 12, 1997 at the sidelines of SAARC summit in Male. As there are many unresolved conflicts between the two countries. India-Pak rivalry is the most dangerous aspect of South Asian security and stability.

### **CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES :**

The term confidence Building Measures was first coined by a group of six western strategic experts in 1970's particularly for measures adopted by the western powers to arrest the volatile situation in Europe at the height of the cold war. These measures were adopted to arrest the chances of inadvertent escalation and averting the dangers of nuclear holocaust between the then super powers USA and USSR. In fact CBMs were taken as the means of preventing accidental wars and unintended escalation when there was too much of antagonism between these two super powers.

On October 22, 2003 India offered a set of 12 CBMs to build confidence and evolve working relations with Pakistan these include.<sup>28</sup>

1. Bus service between Srinagar and Muzaffarabad.
2. Mumbai-Karachi ferry service.
3. Rail/bus link between Khokhrapar and Munnabao.

4. Samjhauta Express between Amritsar and Lahore.
5. Hot line between the coast guards.
6. Non- arrest of each other's fisherman in mutually agreed zone.
7. Early resumption of air links.
8. People over the age of 65 to cross the Wagah border on foot.
9. Medical treatment to 20 more Pakistani children in Indian Hospitals.
10. Restoration of the staff strengths of their respective High Commissions.
11. Additional bus service between Lahore and New Delhi.

### **KASHMIR ISSUE AND PEACE PROCESS:**

**Kashmir Dispute in the Aftermath of Nuclear Tests of 1998** Kashmir has acquired a new dimension in the aftermath of 1998 nuclear tests by both India and Pakistan. Kashmir has in fact become a 'nuclear flashpoint'. It became a security concern not only for India and Pakistan but also for whole of South Asia. Kashmir Issue endangering nuclear stability Kashmir being—designated as a 'nuclear flashpoint'. Under the shadow of terrorism and nuclear weapons Kashmir issue has become more threatening and complicated. However, the current agenda of India-Pakistan rapprochement clearly offers opportunities to negotiate additional workable agreements<sup>17</sup>.

### **BORDER FENCING AND INFILTRATION:**

The Indian side completed fencing of over 700 Kms of border by the end of 2004<sup>19</sup>. N.C. Vij, the Chief of Army Staff hailed that fencing had brought infiltration to 1/10<sup>th</sup> of its level of 2004, while speaking at the Army Parade<sup>20</sup>. On 15<sup>th</sup> January, GOC-in-Chief Northern Command, Lt. General Hari Prasad, maintained that in 2004-05 infiltration across the LoC reached almost zero levels<sup>21</sup>.

### **CROSS BORDER TERRORISM:**

Following the December 13, 2001 attack on Indian Parliament Pakistani President in his national address on January 12, 2002, announced his government's decision to curb religious extremism and terrorism. Earlier, the Agra summit, held in July 2001, failed to break the impasse in India-Pakistan relations since the happening of Kargil, over the issue of Pakistan's refusal to accept India's concern over the issue of cross border terrorism. Though, Pakistan keeps on harboring on the resolution of Kashmir issue on priority bases, it continued its active support to the subversive elements in Jammu and Kashmir<sup>22</sup>. Both the countries have different approach towards the Kashmir.

### **INDIA'S APPROACH TOWARDS KASHMIR:**

To eradicate terrorism from Kashmir To end the sense of alienation and discontent of common masses through economic development and improvement in the situation of human rights, settling the issue of centre-state relations through the grant of autonomy and making the LoC more porous.

### **PAKISTAN'S POSITION ON KASHMIR:**

1. Kashmir is a disputed territory.
2. India is in unlawful occupation of Jammu and Kashmir.
3. Kashmiris are deprived of the right to self-determination and repressed by India.
4. Kashmiris are entitled to revolt against New Delhi's rule.
5. To internationalize the Kashmir issue.

In different approaches of Indo- Pak now the two sides have changed their mentality and have opted different visions on it. Pak had dropped the Idea of Plebiscite and India has considered the Kashmir issue and started peace process on two stages.



**RESOLVING KASHMIR**

In our search for a lasting solution of the Kashmir problem, both in its external and internal dimensions, we shall not traverse solely on the beaten track of the past. Mind sets will have to be altered and historical baggage jettisoned.

**MAJOR OUTCOMES AND AREAS OF COOPERATION**

In a speech of the Indian Council of World Affairs in March, 1949, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru said, "There is not doubt at all in my mind that it is inevitable for India and Pakistan to have close relations, very close relation some time or other in the future. I cannot state when this will take place but situated as we are with all our past; We can not be just indifferent neighbors. We can be either rather hostile to each other or very friendly with each other. Ultimately we can only be really very friendly whatever period of hostility may intervene in between because our interests are so closely interlinked".

**TRADE AND ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION:**

There are healthy signs of revival of trade and economic relations between Indo- Pak since the beginning of the process of composite dialogue in 1998. Bilateral trade between the two countries has passed \$1 billion mark by the end of 2005. The two sides reactivated the Joint Economic Commission to further expand their scope for trade and commerce.

**MILITARY CBMS ON THE TABLE:**

1. New Communication links between the Navies and Air Forces
2. Communication links at Division/corps commander's level at Kargil-Gilgit, Baramulla/Kupwara-Muree, Rajouri-Jehlum, and Jammu-Sialkot and so on
3. Communication links between Indian Coast Guard and Pakistani Maritime Security Agency
4. Periodic meetings between the DGMOs and annual meetings between the vice chiefs of the armies
5. Development of links between the armed forces through exchange of visits by naval ships;
6. seminars between academic and research institutes dealing with strategic and defence related issues; exchanges, lectures, seminars between the defence training establishments; friendly sporting tournaments and joint adventure activities between the two militaries; exchange of visits by military bands are the other military CBMs which could help India and Pakistan build military confidence between each other.

**OTHER AREAS OF MUTUAL CO-OPERATION:**

The energy demands in both India and Pakistan are rising at a rapid pace with the increase in their populations and economic growth rates. Recently, the two countries agreed upon, Iran-Pakistan -India gas pipeline (IPI). The tripartite agreement on IPI opens up a new area of co-operation between the two countries. In fact, Pakistan's decision to go ahead with this project -leaving aside the traditional reservations- points towards an element of rationality with regard to the issue of trade and economic reengagements in South Asia<sup>46</sup>.

**SAARC AND INDIAN AND PAKISTAN TRADE AND ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION:**

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century economics speaks louder than politics and geo-economics is a much more important factor than the geo-politics<sup>51</sup>. Trade and economics play a significant role in the foreign policy making of any nation in this age of globalization and interdependence. Secondly, there is a continuous trend towards privatization and regionalization through liberalization of national economies and development of free trade arrangements. The success of a number of regional organizations like EU, NAFTA, ASEAN and APEC highlight the significance of trade and economic engagements in bringing nations together and deepening co-operation even at the cost of their sovereign credentials. But South Asia is still an exception to it lacking much behind the other regions in developing trade and economic co-operation<sup>52</sup>. Even after two decades of its inception, intra-SAARC trade accounts for just 5 percent as compared to NAFTA's 37 per cent, EU's 63

per cent and ASEAN's 38 per cent<sup>53</sup>

## CONCLUSION:

The relations between India and Pakistan have always remained burning since independence creation of Pakistan was the brain child of the Britishers. Because they had designed a bloody scar which was received through the transfer of power and the wound is still fresh. The pot of evil fervor generated at that time always kept on boiling in India and Pakistan. Whatever, threat India faces, in terms of its security and territorial integrity through Pakistan, emanates from the culmination of division between the two communities.

The subsequent episode of backing the intrusion in India in the wake of its failure to capture Kashmir, led Pakistan to exercise reprehensible means. It cultured military aggressions in 1965 and 1971 that yielded no results. The launched of its flagitious low intensity conflict and support to terrorist 's since then has become a serious concern for India.

The two countries, share a history of rivalry and conflict that spans over fifty year. There are number of issues between two countries during partition and after partition. India and Pakistan are Asian neighbors known the world over for their hostile relations and armed conflicts. The two countries had fought four wars, three major and one minor war in 1999. missions road links and train service got started between two sides.

The CBMs is a permanent feature of the current peace process initiated since, 2003. The two countries have been found equally interesting to find the solution of contentious issues between them through CDP to end their historic enmity to work out important CBMs in both military and non military domain to normalize relations and to create ,strengthen the people to people and non governmental to in tractions to create positive conditions at ground level.

Though the two countries have moved forward to express a zeal to find solution of their bilateral problem, yet the path is not easy. There are forces in both the countries working. These have to be checked and controlled for creating a conducive environment closer interactions among people and cooperation in non political areas could certainly help to build mutual trust and confidence. Then a step-by-step approach to various issues could help to find out their solution.

Hence it is an imperator for both the countries to prepare grounds for strengthening the on going peace process. So that lasting peace can be maintained between two countries.

In fact, if both the countries succeeded in resolving their outstanding problems a new era of goodwill can start for both of them. It can help in establishing peace, not only in Indian subcontinent, but also in the entire world.

## REVIEW LITERATURE:

The topic selected for the study is related to the contemporary time ; hence a plethora of literature is being published recently. Some of the relevant books related to the topic "Peace Process Between India and Pakistan : Post Kargil Phase" and available here have been reviewed.

The Kargil Review Committee report, From Surprise to Reckoning, New Delhi, Sage Publications, 1999.

The Kargil Review Committee Report is a document that contains the happenings of the widely covered war by the media. The report has revived the historical events that led to Kargil crisis. The problems and catastrophe in Kargil is complied in an objective manner. The report has produced the loopholes of the intelligence agencies to assess the extensive infiltration. It questions the information input of these agencies. Nuclear factor and its consequence on Kargil has been closely shifted in the light of India Pakistan relations. It also explores the retaliation and modus operandi adopted by the Indian Army. The report also gives its findings and futuristic perspectives.

The article critically analyses Vajpayee's policy regarding Pakistan by taking into consideration all the major events between India and Pakistan. It has compared the contemporary issues with the past happenings. It

emphasize on the mobilization of army as ‘unconventional’ it criticizes the India government’s handling of the crisis. It foresights India’s option to resort back

to such kind of junctures owing to its defence purchases. It considers rescheduling of initiatives like Agra. It perceives too high optimism and expectations in Pakistan ‘s attitude vis-a vis India.

B.C. Upreti, Contemporary South Asia, Delhi, Kalinga Publications, 2004

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY;**

Analytical approach has been used for the study . The study is primary based on secondary sources. The data is mainly collected from auxiliary derivation as books, journals, periodicals, magazines, news papers , internet etc. However, the data from some primary sources as Instrument of Accession , Kargil Committee Report, Taskhent, Shimla Agreement, Lahore Declaration , Composite Dialogue Process, Joint Statement on Conventional CBMs in New Delhi on August 8, and Joint Press Statement on Vajpayee and Musharaff’s meeting in Islamabad on January 6, 2004 etc are also consulted.

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